NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BY CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN DIEGO REGION AND

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

February 11, 2002

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency WTR-5 Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105-3901 California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123

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Pursuant to the requirement of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program, under the California Porter-Cologne Act and the federal Clean Water Act, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) hereby give Notice of the following **Proposed Action:**

Joint adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2002-0025 (NPDES Permit No. CA0107409) for the discharge of treated wastewater from the E.W. Blom Point Loma Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the Point Loma Ocean Outfall by the City of San Diego. The NPDES Permit conditions and waste discharge requirements contained in Tentative Order No. R9-2002-0025 are based on a variance from secondary treatment requirements as provided for improved discharges under 40 CFR 125 Subpart G and Section 301(h) of the Clean Water Act (33USC131(h)).

A copy of the fact sheet, draft permit, monitoring and reporting program, and 301(h) tentative decision are available at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9. Alternatively, a hard copy can be obtained by contacting Mr. David Hanson at (858) 467-2724 or hansd@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov.

The City's wastewater treatment plant is located at 1902 Gatchell Road, on the western side and near the southern tip of Point Loma in San Diego. This plant serves the Metropolitan Sewer System service area and discharges advanced primary treated municipal wastewater to the Pacific Ocean through the PLOO approximately 4.5 miles offshore (32°39'55" North Latitude, 117°19'25" West Longitude) at a depth of approximately 310 feet.

The Regional Board and USEPA wish to obtain information to assist them in determining the proper permit conditions and requirements for the discharge. An initial public hearing will be held by the Regional Board and USEPA to receive and consider public testimony regarding the proposed action. This public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 13, 2002, at the following location:

California Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region Regional Board Meeting Room 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123-4340

After all oral and written testimony has been received and considered, a Regional Board hearing for final action on issuance of the permit will be held on April 10, 2002, 9:00 a.m., at the same location.

Interested persons are invited to attend to express their views on the above item. Oral statements will be heard, but for accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. In keeping with USEPA procedures, written comments will be accepted up to the end of the initial hearing on March 13, 2002. It is recommended, however, that written testimony be submitted to the USEPA and Regional Board offices as soon as possible to allow consideration of the testimony prior to the initial meeting. Persons wishing to comment should submit their comments in writing, either in person or by mail, to the attention of Ms. Robyn Stuber with the USEPA and Mr. David Hanson with the Regional Board at the addresses shown above. Presentations should be brief to allow all interested parties time to be heard. For more information, please contact Mr. David Hanson at (858) 467-2724 or by email at hansd@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov. The staff contact at the USEPA is Ms. Robyn Stuber at (415) 972-3524 or stuber.robyn@epa.gov.

All documents, comments received, and other information related to the adoption above mentioned items are on file and may be viewed at the office of the Regional Board. Review of information and files can be conducted on the following days and times: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of any person known to you who would be interested in these matters.